BAW AND LEARNED IN THE ISLAND.

the Interior in March Last-A Remarkable Harrative of Personal Observation and Experience-A Gallery of Spanish Pertynits and Cuban Pictures-Macco.

From the Congressional Record of July 18.

he man directly responsible for the roundng up and starving of the reconcentrades was sen. Werler, late Captain-General of the island. He was once characterized on this Boor by myself as "the Gila mouster of Span-ish tymany, befouling with his breath the at-mosphere of civilization." This characteriza-tion is said to have touched him to the quick. people by starvation upon the ground of military necessity. War, he declared, recognized no principle of humanity. It was seconized no principle of humanity. It was not othical, but strictly practical. Gomes and Macco had swept from the eastern to the western end of Ouba, destroying sugar plantations and reddening the sky with blazing cane fields. Weyler retailated in kind.

The rural Cuban was the friend of the insurant.

enth. It was from his little patches of tilled round that the patriot drew his supplies. The insurgents were mounted upon horses raised in the rural districts and were fed upon native

thised with the patriots.

Weyler was the first to recognize the fact that, while outwardly peaceful and loyal, the people were the main reliance of the Cuban Army. Their friends and relatives were in the ranks of the patriots, and, more than this, they were as thoroughly imbued with a spirit of liberty as were the "American farmers in the Bevolution." To use the words of a Spanish sympathizer in Havana, "the entire people were at heart insurrectionists, and the very grass under the feet of the Spaniards was in-

ried out with merciless severity. Martinez Campos had fought several battles with the Insurgents, but was unable to prevent the invasion of the western provinces. They con-tained the richest plantations in the island. Maceo and Gomez had maintained themselves in front of Havana for several months. The Spaniards themselves acknowledged that they might have entered the city by a bold dash. Masso's friends say that he was fully aware of this fact, but that he preferred to obey the dio-

tails fact, but that he preferred to copy the dis-tales of prudence and remain outside.

Weyler's orders for the concentration of the rural population in the different towns were promptly carried out in Pinar del Rio. The promptly carried out in Fanar del Mo. The Spaniards butchered all the horses and cattle, destroyed every hamiet, and forced the non-combatants into the different towns. The ob-ject was to render it impossible for Maceo's forces to obtain provender. In this Weyler was undoubtedly successful. Macco's troops suffered terribly for lack of supplies. Several sattles were fought with yarying success. The insurgent army practically went to pieces. The was not strong enough to recross the trocha, and Macco himself was finally killed while trying to reach Gomez with a few followers.

Weyler regarded the province as practically pacified. Meantime his edict had been carried and Puerto Principe. Ditches were dug around the pens in various towns and barbod wire fences placed on the outer side of the ditches. The entire rural population was either butch-ered or driven within these ditches. No effort friends declare that he meant to make provision for them, but that he was unable to do so. Meantime he concentrated his strength and marched from Havana to the border of Puerto Princips in a vain effort to bring Gomes to a

way, worrying him as Marion and Sumter worried Cornwallis and Tarleton. Weylor went back to Havana. Meantime the recon-centrades died by thousands of starvation. The provinces of Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara and a portion of Puerto Principe were practically as free from insurgents as was Pinar del Rio. The suffering in all these prov-

nces was intense. Weyler began to gather himself for a supreme and final fort to drive the patriofs from San-tiago de Cuba, in which province they maintained a well-drilled force under Calixto Gar-cia. He was on the point of making this demontration when Canovas was assassinated, and Weyler was ordered buck to Spain, Blanco be-

words, the insurgents would have divindled into predatory bands, without organization and without an attempt to maintain an insurrectionary government. The Weylerites laugh at the effort of Sugasta and Blanco to organize an autonomic government.

THE CHARACTER OF WEYLER.

Certain it is that Weyler is a remarkable man. He was a military attache of Spain at Washington during the American civil war. He served with Sheridan in the valley, and had a great minimalion for Sherman and Grant. He speaks English fluently, and ought to be thoroughly acquainted with the resources and disposition of the people of the United States. He is quick in motion, alert in mentality, decisive in action, and unrelenting in purpose. At a certain hour each day he would appear upon the Prado in Hayana in full uniform and march up and down the square for thirty minutes, entirely unaccompanied.

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Weyler's moods varied. At times he would invite a correspondent to sit down upon a sofa with him and enter into a free conversation. At others he would receive the correspondent while scated at his deak. Looking up, he would say: "Do you want to see me? Well, what is it? Speak! I am quite busy."

He spoke English only when his adjutants were not present. He seemed to be apprehensive that it would create a suspicion within their minds if they heard him conversing in English with the correspondents. If a correspondent produced a clipping from a newspaper, Weyler invariably seized it and put it in his pocket. He patronized all the clipping bureaus in the United States, and had a score of serapooks. All clippings of denunciation against himself were underlined with red ink. They were placed in a separate scrapbook. All enricatures of himself and of the little King of Spain were put in a different volume.

One day he read in an American newspaper a story accusing him of wrapping the Stars and Stripes around an American prisoner and of then burning him alive. Weyler gritted his teeth, stamped his feet, worked his Austrian chin with anger, and said that if he could catch the correspondent who wrote the story he would wrap him in a spanish flag, place a dynamite bomb beneath him, and blow him off the island.

At another time, speaking of the attitude of the American press he beging of the attitude of the American press he beging a servision of their despatches. Next day two of these correspondents disappeared from the island.

island.

At another time, speaking of the attitude of the American press, he became sareastle, saying that, notwithstanding their foul abuse of him, they were really his best friends and had been of great service to him. Spain was continually throbbing with indignation over the invectives heaped upon him. Editorial comments upon his course in American newspapers were reproduced in the Madrid press. They aroused Spanish patriotism and proved a great factor in the eningrement of his army. He wanted to thank the New York newspapers for adding at least 75,000 troops to the Spanish army in Cuba.

At one time, in apologizing for his alleged ferceity, he said he was simply obeying the commands of the Canovas Ministry. He alleged that the reconcentrado decree had been drawn at Madrid, and not at the palace at Havana. He himself was the simple servant of the home Ministry, Joyal to Spain and determined that she should win, even if every man, woman, and child born on the Island of Cuba had to be sacrificed. He would make the island a wilderness covered with ashes and bones if this would insure victory.

"What care I." said he, with a wave of the hand, 'how great the sacrifice of life to crush out the spirit of rebellion? If I go back to Spain triumphant, no one will ever dare to ask for detailed accounts of the coet of victory." At another time, speaking of the attitude of

A TALK WITH CAPTAIN-GENERAL BLANCO. A TALK WITH CAPTAIN-GENERAL BLANCO.
On March 9 the Congressional visitors, accompanied by Consul-General Lee, paid a formal visit to Captain-General Blanco. The party took carriages and were driven to the palace of the Captain-General. It fromts an exquisite park in the centre of the city. Like all such palaces, it has an inner court, with martie stairways on the right and left of the entrance. In the inner court stands a marble statue of Columbus. Spanish soldiers in neat uniforms guard the entrance. The party alighted from their carriages, and, headed by Gen. Lee, mounted the stairway, where they were met by Gen. Parrado, second to Blanco in semmand. They were ushered into a reception

room and invited to seats. The spartment was richy furnished.

Goa. Blanco entered the room. He has a pleasant face and a mild eye. He wore neither uniform nor decoration, but was dressed in plain black. You meet a desen men in Wall street every day who resemble him. He looked more like a prosperous banker than a Captain-deneral. With Gen. Blanco came Dr. Congosto, the Bearstary-General. All retired to the recoption room, and were seated in a circle.

Gen. Lee and Gen. Blanco greeted each other quite warmly. It was evident that Blanco had a warm spot in his heart for Lee, and that Lee, a certain extent, reciprocated the feeling, Each inquired after the other's health, and there was a vein of bulings in their conversation.

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"Tou must visit me in the United States this summer," and Gen, Lee, "and we will go to Saratoga together. The water there will be of great benefit to you. Aside from this, there are grand balls every night, and you will have an opportunity of being presented to many beautiful American ladies. I understand that during your last visit to the United States you were greatly impressed with their loveliness."

Gen. Blanco partly understood what was said, but relied upon an interpreter for a thorough definition. Throwing up his hands, he said he feared that he would be unable to accept the kind invitation that was extended to him. My duties might keep me in Havana." he added.

Gen. Lee replied that if he could not find time to visit the springs, it would be his pleasure to send him several cases of the water, as he felt confident that it would be very beneficial.

Meantime the visitor had entered into conversation with Dr. Congosto. He had met him in Philadelphia several years ago, and recalled the meeting. Congosto apeaks English like an Americas. He is polished and cordial. He has a remarkable head, with a full, broad forehead and large liquid eyes. He is known as the Talleyrand of the Blanco Administration.

"Hardly that," replied the visitor. "I came to see what I can see, if not to hear what I can bear."

The conversation then drifted upon the effort

along?" he said.

"Hardly that," replied the visitor. "I came to see what I can see, if not to hear what I can hear."

The conversation then drifted upon the effort to establish autonomy for Cuba. The proposal, the visitor was told, came from Madrid, at the suggestion of Gen. Blanco. The Captain-General selected the Autonomic Cabinet. It consists entirely of Cubans. This Cabinet had complete control of the civil administration of the island. Congosto said, and they were entirely responsible for the present situation. They had removed the Spanish Governors of the six provinces and appointed Cubans in their stead. One of these Governors in former days had been sentenced to death. More than this, the Autonomic Cabinet had removed all the Spanish Mayora of the different cities and appointed Cubans in their places. All the Judges of the courts had been removed and Cubans substituted.

It was a system more liberal than that in Canadia to-day. Gen. Blanco did not preside at the meeting of the Cabinet, and had no more power than the Governor-General of Canada. Elections had been ordered the same as those held in the Canadian provinces. They would be held some time in April. When he was asked whether the franchise was based on a property qualification he replied. No; the only qualification is the ability to read and write, and loyalty."

Are the negroes to vote the same as the whites?" he was asked.

"Certainly," was the reply. "There is no distinction as to race or creed here. We recognize the negro as an equal with the whites, both socially and politically. The blacks are far more free than those in the United States, he remarked, "for if I am to believe what I see in your American newspapers, many of them are debarred from voting. In Cuba there is no feeling against them, nor any question whatever of their right to vote."

"Well, Doctor," said the visitor, "if the Notonists elect a majority, and a system is inaugurated the same as that in Canada, what next? It has not received the indorsement of the Spanish Cortes."

Five minutes afterward formal leave of the Captain-General was taken. As the party descended the marble stairway they stopped to aimire the statue of Columbus. Files of Spanish soldiers still remained at the entrance.

"It was here in front of this statue," said a correspondent who accompanied the party, that the body of Gen. Arenguren was placed when it was brought to Havana two weeks ago. It was borne here covered with blood, amid the imprecations of the Spanish volunteers. Blanco, from the second-story window, witnessed the demonstration. With an impatient wave of the hand, he promptly ordered the correst to be taken to the morgue. When the relatives of the unfortunate young Cuban patriot sought it, the General humanely turned it over to their care and it received a Christian burial."

TREATMENT OF AMERICANS.

The sufferings of American citizens in Cuba have been overlooked in the horror created by the execution of Weyler's reconcentration order. It resolved itself into a deliberative effort to exterminate the rural Cuban population by starvation. No effort was made to feed them. To use the words of Miss Clara Barton to a Congressional delegation visiting Matanzas, "The Turks were far more merciful to the Armenians. They put them to the sword outright and spared them the unfold miseries inflicted upon the Cubans."

It was not at first generally known that among the reconcentrados driven into the Weyler pens were scores of citizens of the United States. In every case they were treated as rebellious subjects of Spain. If they protested and refused to obey the order, they were slaughtered on their plantations by the Spanish guerrillas. In most cases their cattle were killed, their houses burned and their lands laid waste. Many would have starved to death in the pens were it not for the \$50,000 appropriated by Congress. A few beyond the ken of the watchful Consuls charged with the distribution of the provisions undoubtedly did die of starvation.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee filled his functions grand-

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee filled his functions grandly. His example was followed by Consul Brice at Matanzas and Consul Barker at Sagua la Grande. All made reports of these outragos on American elitzons, but those reports were buried in the pigeonholes of the State Department here at Washington. Near Sagua la Grande an American citizen was butchered on his plantation by guerrillas. The murder was brought to the attention of Consul Barker. With sleepless energy he laid bare every detail. He secured the affidavits of seven eyewitnesses of the crime and forwarded them to Washington. No reply was received, and I have no knowledge of any protest made by the State Department to the Spanish authorities.

Nor was the situation improved under the rule of autonomy. In Matanzas to-day there remains an American eitzen who two years ago owned a plantation on the river, six miles from the city. He was driven into the pen under the Weyler order and his plantation destroyed. A Cuban by birth, he married an American girl in Amherst, Mass., and became naturalized. Through the kindness of Consul Brice he escaped starvation.

The real Governor is Molina, the General commanding the province, better known as the military Governor. Molina received his commission from Weyler, and is heartly in lifts with his policy. D'Armis issued an order allowing the American reconcentrado to return to his plantation. The Amherst man borrowed \$250 and went back to the blackened ruins of his home. He bought a seow and began to make charcoal, intending to bring it down the river on the seow. Presperity had not fairly gilmmered before his pits were destroyed, his charcoal was seized, and he was driven back within the lines.

The military Governor had revoked the order of the civil Governor, and the deaths from starvation, as the records show, were 1,500 a month. Indeed, 23 persons died in the square fronting the palace on the very day that the new civil dovernor took office. Consul Brice forwarded the facts in this case to the State Department and a cialm for

Inhabited parts will be considered a rebel and tried as such.

In most cases the order was executed by the Spanish guerrilias, who plundered and murdered without merey. They acted in accordance with the spirit of Weyler's order, which meant extermination, without regard to age, condition, or sex. He, as he said, simply enried out the order of clanovas, without fear or favor. It was thus, as a subsitern in the tenyears' war, he carried out the order of Captain General Balmaceda, better known as "the butcher." Weyler shifts the onus from his own ahoulders to those of the Trime Minister, for whom Spain alone is responsible.

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ANTONIO MACKO.

Of all the information gleaned by the Congressional delegation none is more interesting and romantie than that illustrative of the character and life of Gen. Antonio Maceo. It was gratifying to know that he was not killed by the treachery of the Spaniards, although they made several efforts to poison him. I have in my posaession a pass without the lines issued by a Spanish officer to a map charged with this mission. It is dated in 1805. The emissary reached Maceo's camp and disclosed the plot to him. begging him to be on his guard.

Maceo passed from the province of Pines del

Maceo passed from the province of Pinar del Rio by boat into that of Havans, and was en-deavoring to reach the headquarters of the in-surgents in that province, when he unex-pectedly met a Spanish force and was killed. The story that he was led into an ambuscade by Dr. Zertuccha evidently is without founda-tion. The Spaniards liberated the physician, who was Maceo's surgeon, because he took ad-

vantage of Weyler's proclamation pardoning insargents who should voluntarily surrender.

Macco was undoubtedly the greatest General that the revolution has produced. He was as swift on the march as either Sheridan or Stonewall Jackson, and equally as prudent and wary. He had fashes of military genius whenever a crisia arose. It was to his sudden inspiration that Martiner Campos owed his final defeat at Coliseo, giving the patriots the opportunity to overrum the richest of the western proprinces and to carry the war to the very gates of Havana, Macco developed rapidly in the ton years war, which closed twenty years ago. As a boy his brightness and probity attracted the attention of Gen. Gonez, who made him his protege, in him Gomez had the utmost confidence, and he loved him as he loved his son or brother. Macco entered the patriotarmy as a Liceutenant-His promotion was rapid, and he rose to the rank of Major-General. In that war he developed the ability abown in the present war. He died a Licutemant-General. No one has ever questioned his patriotism. Money could not buy him; promises could not deceive him. His devotion to Cuban freedom was like the devotion of a father to his family. All his energies, physical and intellectual, were given freely to his country.

Macco, through a mulatto, was a second consin of Martinez Campos. His mother came from the town of Mayari, on the horth coast of eastern Cuba. Indian blood courses in the veins of its Indian blood courses in the war in the first of the family. All his energies, physical and intellectual, were given freely to his country.

Macco's mother was half Indian and half negro. Her family name was Grinan. Col. Martinez del Campos, the father of Martinez Campos was the military Governor of Mayari. While in this station he had relations with a woman of Indian and negro blood, who was a first cousin of Macco's mother. It was in Mayari that Martinez Campos mother has baptized and legitimized in Spain, and under Spanish law the town in which one is baptized is recogni

Spanish authorities.

THE TREATT OF ZANJON.

After Maceo became a Major-General and Campos became Captain-General, and while preliminaries were being discussed at Zanjon, a meeting between them was arranged. Campos was very desirous of a conference with Maceo. He sent word that he was coming, and they met on the plain of Barragua. There were two royal paims of extraordinary size on this plain, landmarks throughout the country, well known to everybody. It was ngreed the two Generals should meet in the shade of these palms at noon, accompanied by their staffs. The place of meeting was selected by Maceo, at the request of the Captain-General. Maceo's army was only a few miles away. The mulatto General arrived beneath the palm trees at noon, with an escort of thirty men. Raising his field glass he scanned the horizon, but could see nobody. Surprised that Campos did not keep his word, he dismounted and found the Captain-General seated and propped against one of the palms, fast asleep. Before this discovery Maceo had seen a horse tethered in a clump of bushes 200 yards away. It had borne Campos to the rendervous. When the Spanish General opened his eyes, Maceo said: Why, General, where is your staff?"

Between gentlemen, on occasions like this." Campos gravely replied, "there is no need of witnesses."

It is possible that the Captain-General did not desire the presence of his staff; preforring that the conversation should be strictly confidential. Strangers are not the only ones dogged by Spanish spics. The Government itself maintains an espionage on all of its officers. THE TREATT OF ZANJON.

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Describing the interview afterward, Maceo said that never in his life did be feel more ashamed than when Campos remarked that gentlemen on occasions like this needed no witnesses. In reply the patriot said, "General, pardon me," and turning to his staff ordered them back several hundred yards. Among them was the noted negro commander, Fior Crombet, whose inflexible patriotism was sometimes sullied by atrocious acts. Maceo might justly be termed the Toussaint l'Ouverture of the insurrection and Crombet its Dessailnes. Saiuting Maceo previous to retiring. Crombet said: "General, I hope you know your duty."

your duty."

To this remark Maceo responded: "Betire, and return at 3 o'clock."

Crombet referred to a law enacted by the Cuban Government similar to the one now in force in Cuba. It provided for the shooting of any Spanish officer who approached a patriot General to treat for a surrender. In telling the story afterward. Maceo said that he saw the devil in Crombet's eyes, and feared trouble.

At 3 o'clock the secort returned, but without Crombet. Quintin Bandera, the well-known negro General of the present war, came back with the escort and reported that on reaching the camp Flor Crombet had mustered his forces and departed. This reduced Maceo's army at least one-third. Fearful that Crombet meant mischlef, and knowing his savage disposition, Maceo was afraid that Campos might be attacked on his return to his headquarters. He offered to escort him back to his staff, and the offer was accepted.

Crombet had really gone to ambuscade Campos and his escort. He planted the ambuscade at a point called Los Inflernos (Hell's Steps). When Campos reached his escort. He warily followed the Captain-General, however, until long after sunset. About 8 o'clock at night Campos was flercely attacked by Crombet. The attack was stoutly resisted. Maceo closed up, on hearing the first shot, and vigorously defended Campos, much to the astonishment of the latter. The assault was repelled, and the Captain-General returned to Alto Songo, Maceo accompanying him as far as Jarajuica.

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SPANISH TREACHERY.

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Macco had a second interview with Campos not long afterward. It was upon the estate of an English planter. Campos urged him to follow the example of others and surrender on the promise of autonomy. Macco stoutly refused to accept such terms. He proposed that he be allowed to secrete his arms and leave Cuba, feeling perfectly free to return to the island whenever he pleased. This proposal was finally accepted. Campos further guaranteed the freedom of the slaves in Macco's army, promising that they should have the same rights in Cuba thereafter as Spanish citizens. He also solemniy promised that Macco and his staff should be sent to Jamaica on a steamship furnished by Campos and there released. These promises were made in the prosence of the British Consul. who came to Songo with Macco in a buggy.

On his arrival at Songo the patriot General was sent in a special train with the British Consul to Santiago de Cuba. From the train he went directly aboard the ship Thomas Brooks, chartered to take him to Jamaica. Somewhat to his surprise, his staff was placed aboard another steamer, called Los Angelos. In violation of the promise of Martinez Campos, the staff were taken, not to Jamaica, but to Porto Rico. There they were transferred to Spanish warships and taken to Ceuta. It is probable that Macco would also have been sent there, despite the agreement of Campos, were it not for the friendship shown him by the British Consul, Mr. Kamaden, who was the owner of the Thomas Brooks. Some months later Campos became Prime Minister in Spain. He had guaranteed home rule to Cuba, but the Spanish Cortes refused to sanction the agreement. They were not, however, utterly lost to shame, for they did pass Moret's bill freeling the negroes. This, however, looked like a stroke of policy. It was evidently done to curry favor with the negroes whose bravery, devotion, and discipline were unquestioned.

The same policy is being pursued by the Spaniards to-

columns he alludes to them as an argument against annexation to the United States.

THE SPANISH SOLDERSS.

Much has been said concerning Weyler's army. I saw many Spanish troops in Cuba. In nearly every case they were neatly dressed, fairly drilled, and usually politic and obliging. Their arms and accourtements were always in good condition, and they seemed to be in the best of spirits. They carried Mauser rifles and wore a uniform of light material, something like the old-fashioned check appron of our borhood days. The coat resembled a Norfolk jacket, and was usually held in place by a black helt. Their hats were of a fine chip straw, with broad brims. The left side of the brim was planned to the side of the crown with a rosette, carrying the Spanish colors. The officers were fine Fanama, hats, with the same rosettes and no plumes. Their uniforms were not of the same material as those of the privates, but were of a steel-gray color. The sleeves were richly braided in gold, and similar braid appeared upon the coat collar. Rank was designated by the quantity of braid on each sleeve and collar.

Meantime the companies awaiting inspection smoked cigarettes, gazed at the ladies in the windows of the hotels, and bought tidhits from the hucksters who beset the line. The jablering was becausant until the inspecting officer reached the company; then all were as

Such was a morning scene in Havana. These oldiers were Spanish regulars. The volun-

men, ranging apparently between the ages of 16 and 21.

Such was a morning seens in Havana. These soldiers were Spanish regulars. The volunteers are an entirely different organization. Their uniforms are of a different eut and texture, and they never appear in public except on special occasions. They probably drill at night in their armories. They are composed of porters, clerks, and other employees of the numerous mercantile and manufacturing establishments in Havana. Their officers are the proprietors and the sons of the proprietors. They look spick, span, and neat, and have all the dian of the National Guard of the State of New York. They exhibit no disposition to enter the field in search of the enemy, but maintain their right to remain in Havana and man the fortifications, if necessary, while the regular troops are sent to the front.

The garrisons of the blockhouses vary in size. Around Matanasas three soldiers, one of whom was a corporal, had charge of such posts. In small towns in the interior, more subject to attack, there were a dozen soldiers at each station under the command of a Sergeant.

The Spanish recruit is not boisterous or given to horse play. He never solaces himself with songs, nor becomes particularly demonstrative on any occasion. The brightest of the recruits were called Sallegra. They are said to have a streak of Celtic blood in them, and they certainly exhibit a Celtic disposition. They are witty and quick in motion, but lack Irish brawn and muscle. The Biscayans were tall and energetic. There is said to be fine fighting material among them. This does not hold true with the Catalans and Valencians, who are more squalid and not particularly neat in habit. No signs of sympathy with the starving reconcentrados were shown by the Spanish soldiers. The Spanish people shunned them as they would have shunned hyenas. The soldiers treated them with the utmost indifference so long as they remained within their peas. If any ventured outside they were either shot or bayoneted, according to orders.

sere short and resembled the blade of a bowle knife. The officers were far more heartless toward the reconcentrados. They ancered at them, and took apparent delight in aggravating their misery.

On returning from Sagua la Grande toward Matanzas I bought a Madrid newspaper of Feb. 22. Although not versed in the Beanish language, I managed to extract some information from its columns. I atterward offered it to a Spanish officer who sat in the opposite seat facing two comrades. It was accepted with thanks. Not long afterward the officers opened a lunch basket. The car was filled with the flavor of boiled ham. Bottless of wine were uncorked, and the officer politely invited me to partake of the lunch. I as politely invited me to partake of the lunch the train entered Colon. A hundred starving reconcentrados besieged the ears on the outside, extending their bony hands in supplication, and moaning for food. The savory flavor of the ham reached their nostrik.

The officers laughed at them in derision. Calling a fat young negro porter into the car, they placed him at the open window and gave him the romains of the lunch. He displayed the treasure to the eyes of the longing sufferers and laughingly munched the cold ham and bread, washing it down with copious draughts of light wine. To the agonized expressions of those outside he at first paid no beed; then he made up a tempting sandwich and offered it to a starving white woman, with a starving infant at her breast. As she reached forth her hand to receive it he drew it back with a grin and ate it himself. This action aroused the risbillites of the Spanish officers, who seemed intensely amused and patted the negro on the back.

Consul-General Lee occupied apartments in the Hotel Ingleterra, Havana. The Congressional delegation frequently visited him. I was at this banquet that the Austrian commande circle without giving the countersign. It was at the samp and navy work of the Spanish officers of the Spanish officers of an Austriah and not forgotten the fate of Maximilian

inspected the Radia seading to Havana. The guns of very little value. They would not stand an assault of the American navy for more than three hours. A landing could be effected without danger and the occupation of the city made complete.

Aside from this, Matanzas is salubrious, and fully as near Key West as Havana. The air is pure and water plentiful and as clear as crystal. The city itself is within striking distance of the capitals of the four western provinces. A railroad runs to Havana, another to Guines, south of Havana, and from there to Pinar del Rio. There are at least a dozen railroads in the province. One runs direct through Colisso and Colon to Santo Domingo, and from there to Sagua la Grande; another runs direct from Santo Domingo to Cienfuegos, and still another from Cienfuegos to Santa Clara. There is also railroad communication with Remedios, on the northern coast.

With 10,000 Union-Confederate veterans it Cienfuegos to Santa Clara. There is also railroad communication with Remedios, on the northern coast.

With 10,000 Union-Confederate veterans it seemed to me that Gen. Lee could capture Havana within a week after landing at Matanzas. Such a landing, however, ought to be made before the rainy season sets in: Havana has no fortifications of any account in its rear, and is practically unaprotected from assault. Maceo repeatedly mustered his troops within five miles of the city, and could undoubtedly have captured it before the return of Martinez Campos from Matanzas. He deemed it military prudence to restrain his men. The English evidently made a mistake over a hundred years ago when they landed near Havana and laid slege to Morro Castle. Many men died from sickness who might have been saved if Matanzas had been selzed and made a base of operations.

Gen. Lee's visitors were much impressed with his analysis of the military situation. They left him at midnight, all agreeing that it would be a just retribution for an American army corps to enter Havana with Fits Lee at its head. His bearing in the city was magnificent. Ever wary and watchful of American interests, he visited the Captain-General's palace at any hour of the day or night whenever they were threatened.

Of course, the feeling against him among the Spaniards was very bitter, but no insulting word was ever uttered within his hearing. Outwardly all were polite, if not affable.

THE VISIT TO MATANZAS.

wardly all were polite, if not affable.

THE VISIT TO MATANZAS.

On the following morning at 6 o'clock two of the Congressional delegation started for Matanzas. They arose before daylight, and crossed the harbor in a ferryboat that would have disgraced Hoboken a quarter of a century ago. To the left of the landing is the arena for buil fights. Crowds swarm to these buil fights on Sunday and fairly revel in the brutal sport. The train was made up of five cars—first, second, and third class. Two of the cars were ironclad. The fare from Havana to Matanzas, first class, is \$13 in Spanish gold. These cars are furnished with cane-bottomed seats and no racks. The windows are never washed, and the floor of the car is swept once a week. There was an improvement upon the Amorican system in one respect—the name of the station which the train was approaching was always posted at the forward end of the car. The railroad, by the way, is not a Government institution, and no trains are run after darkness sets in. The first station out was Guanabacco, a town which has frequently been taken by the Cuban patriots. The country was rolling and the soil quite sterile nor was there any sign of cultivation. Spanish blockhouses capped many a hill, and the ditches along the tailroad were fenced in with barbed wire. At times immense hedges of cacti and yucca lined the ditches.

There is no more charming spot in Cuba than Matanzas. The bay is like a crescent in shape and receives the waters of the Yumuri and San Juan rivers, two small unnavigable streams. A high ridge separates them. On this ridge back of the town stands a cathedral dedicated to the Black Virgip. It is a reproduction of a cathedral in the Balearic Islands. The view from its steeple is magnificent. Looking backward, the valley of the Yumuri strekes they were sea a barn floor. The Yumuri breaks through the mountains, this valley is one of the game of Cuba. The San Juan Valley is more wild and rugged. There were alight signs of cultivations in the Yuguri Valley but none in t

trades have died here since Weyler's order, and 47,000 in the entire province, which is not larger in area than the State of Delaware. The Governor's makes from a plaze, shaded with magnificent pains. In this plaze twents three persons died of starvation on the 12th of November list. This information comes from Gov. d'Armis himself.

HABITOWING SCENES.

The starving reconcentrade, however, was omnipresent. The wan face and despairing eye were ever before you, and the skeleton hand was ever extended. In the streets of Matannas and Sagua is Grande scores of famished creatures of both seres and of all ages and conditions swarmed around the strangers, pleading in low, mournful tones for food. Their appeals were as plaintive as the notes of the peewee in northern meadows. Madre a Dios, Caballero"—you heard it morn, noon, and night, and the and refrain rang in your cars even in your dreams. Misory, hopeless misery, everywhere—whites, blacks, and Asintles, for wherever there is misery you find the Chinaman, Here he was conspicuous by his silence. He stood aloof from the swarming spectres, gaunt, thin and hollow eved a picture of utter despair, Never was his hand extended, never did he HARROWING SCENES. wherever there is misery you find the Chinaman, Here he was conspicuous by his silenge. He stood aloof from the swarming spectres, gaunt, this and hollow eved, a picture of utter despair. Never was his hased extended, never did he preas himself upon your attention, but there was a look in his eye that conveyed his sense of the utter hopelessness of his situation. At Colsee a living skeleton, with almond eyes, sat upon the piatform of the railway station, issless and motionless. A battered can swangfrom his bony fingers. A Congressman bought two small loaves, three meat cakes and a string of sausaggas and shoved them into the lattered san. The skeleton arose, but there was no thankful expression in his eyes. Clasping the can to his naked ribs he slowly moved away, but his strength was gone. He bottered and fell across the track in the hot sunlight, and as the train moved away from the station there he remained, still clasping the bread to his breast. No one assisted him. No one tried to rob him of his treasure. Each reconcentrado respects the misery of his fellow.

Out of the hundreds seen by the visiting strangers not one, however pressed by hunger, made any effort to appropriate what did not belong to him. Between the squalid huts in the trochas a few tomato vines had been planted and the fruit was ripening beneath a blazing sun; yet no starving creature evinced a disposition to rob his fellow sufferer of the product of his labor. A Spanish officer, however, strede among the huts at Colon sariy one morning, drew his sword, and amused himself by levelling avery plant to the ground.

Nineteen out of twenty of the reconcentrados were women and children. Tots 5 and 6 years old, homeless, fatherless and motherless, crawled through the camps, dying from starvation. Those sent to the hospitals met even a worse fate. Upon unclean cots, with festering limbs and parched throats, they met the same horribe end—for up to the advent of Clara Barton they were without food and without medical relief. And the Spanish newspaper

Grande one morning two bright little girls were seen seated upon the stairway leading to the office of the American Consul. A Congressman called the attention of Consul Barker to them.

"Oh yes," was the reply, "they are my little wards. They are the last of a family of fifteen. My heart was touched by their destitution. I found them on the verge of starvation and am trying to save them. I found shelter for them with a family not far away, and the little things visit me every morning to show their gratitude."

They were cleanly in attire, but their faces were still pinched, and the habitual look of terror had not entirely left their expressive eyes. Poor things! Basking anew in the sunshine of humanity, they were probably thrown back into the dread gulf of starvation three weeks afterward, when Consul Barker left Cuba by order of the President.

There were very faw negroes among the reconcentrados. Indeed, but one black in the throse of death from starvation was seen. This was at Matanzas. The party was returning to the city from a visit to a hospital in its outskirts. While crossing a stone bridge over the river something like an overturned iron status lay below on the sward of the bank. It was the skin and bone of a gigantic negro, entirely nucle. He was in the last agonies of starvation. He lay partly upon his side in the hot sun, with knees crooked and head upon his left arm. When we leaned over the parapet, but the figure remained motionless, Suddenly the head was raised and the long, bony right arm moved in a feeble effort to seratch the naked thigh.

Gazing steadily at the water, in which young mullet were swarming and jumping, he faintly moaned and again assumed a recumbent position. Possibly he was deaf, for he seemed to be utterly unaware of our presence. Nor dih he evince any interest when a peseta was thrown within his reach. Not far away an immense net, with thousands of meshes and hundreds of corks, was stretched upon the grass to dry. It had evidently been recently used, for silvery scales were s

Similar agonizing scenes turned up unexpectedly and in out-of-the-way places. There was a pitiful spectacle in the cathedral where the bones of Columbus are said to repose. The another door and again besought assistance. The verger was showing the party the magnificent vestments of the Archbishop of Havana worn on fete days. They were sprinkled with diamonds, rubles, sapphires, and other precious stones, valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars. Across these robes the suffering creature stretched her hand, while the babe ceased whimpering and gazed at the glittering jewels as though entranced. A second verger rushed from beneath a statue of the Madonna, selzed the poor creature, turned her around, and she was again driven from the church before any of the party could contribute to relieve her distress.

INCIDENTAL.

An amusing incident occurred while two of

her distress.

An amusing incident occurred while two of our Congressmen were dining in a restsurant. At an adjoining table sat two Spanish officers. They glared savagely at the two strangers, jabbering meanwhile in vigorous Spanish. The Congressmen, fancying that they were the subject of conversation, became indignant.

"I believe," said one of them, "that these fellows are calling us American pigs and using other insulting terms. I have half a mind to walk over to them and demand an explasation." He was about to do something rash when a Scotchman, who sat at the table, smiled and said:

"You make a mistake. The gentlemen are not referring to you in any manner. The heavy man is damning his shoes, saying that they pinch his feet and give him great pain. His friend is advising him to sell them and have a pair made by a Havana shoemaker."

Both had drawn their shoes from the Quartermaster's department on the previous day. The small officer had exchanged his with a shopkeeper and was advising his comrade to follow his example.

The small officer had exchanged his with a shopkeeper and was advising his comrade to follow his example.

THE CUBAN PATRIOTS.

No one but Maximo Gomez himself knows the exact strength of the Cuban Army. The bulk of the enrolled force is quartered in the province of Santiago de Cuba and Puerto Principe. There are scattering detachments under difforent leaders in Santa Clara. Matanzas, Havana and Pinar del Rio. Each little city has its own little junta, which distributes Gomez's orders and pronunciamentos throughout the island. I was visited by a member of one of these juntas while in an interior city. The interview was arranged by an American who had spent several years in the island.

I was enjoying a siesta in my room after dinner, when the door was opened and the secretary of the little rural junta popped in without warning. Knowing the number of the room, he had escaped observation in the hotel, slipped up the stone stairway, and entered the apartment without being seen. The lattices opening on the baleony were closed, and after ascertaining the absence of all cavesdroppers the door was locked. The windows fronted the main street, and only the plaintive cries of starving reconcentrados outside reached the ear. In the darkened room the conversation was carried on in low tones.

Much information was gleaned on both sides. The secretary listened with breathless interest to an analysis of the situation in the United States. He spoke English very innerfectly, but seemed to have no difficulty in understanding it. When told that President McKinley's determination to put a stop to the Spanish atractices was fixed and unalterable, and that the American people were in a warlike fever over the destruction of the Maine, he shock his head doubifully. He spoke of hopes blasted in the past, and evidently had little faith in the future. The information that Congress had out \$60,000,000 in the bands of the President to prepare for war dazed him.

Then his black eyes began to snap, and he ran his fingers through his hair. He

prane to his feet quiver in music mech had lead. I come the down which came from the courty of the wind, which came from the courty in breest putts, imparting a delicious cool-ness to the atmosphere. But the Secretary was not to be reasured. He was pale and nervous and was confident that some coue had been listening at the door. For a minute or more he was mute and motioniess. The wind rathed the courty? he whispored. "Some one is on the balcony?"

I threw open the intitled doors, while the Culan shrank behind the curtain of the bed. There was no cause for alarm. The street below was dotted with spanish coldiers, but none of them had found his way to the balcony. The property of them had found his way to the balcony. The plantite than over. One seen photographed itself upon my memory. A man with two beads of lettuce was passing the hotel. A starving girl in wags implored him for food. She was white lipped and thin; there was burning fever in her veius. The citizen broke off a leaf of the letture and plaged it in her bony fingers. Among them was a crippled boy. Crawling along the curt, he clasped his arms arcund the legs of the man and monned pitfully. In a second he was kjeked into the gutter. The citizen fought his way to the curre and disappeared with his lower which she had not a cover by a spitful sputter of Spanish profanity.

Again was the intuice closed and the Cuhan assured that there was no foundation for his anspictors. He replied that the American vitors were mane was watched, and house who called upon them were marked men. Even the services of the man and was a complete that the condition of the man and was and roare with laughtor. A moment afterward the sufferers were driven to cover by a spitful sputter of Spanish profanity.

Again was the intuice closed and the Cuhan sand roared with a laughtor, a man assured that there was no foundation for his anspictors. He replied that the American vitors were the way and gives him the cold rishmap, who speaks Spanish for a pative house himself understood, on

every horse, mule, ox, cow, sheep, and hog in Pinar del Bio, and destroyed every hut and hacienda.

As to the province of Havana, the Junta representative was equally positive and no more specific. He was certain that Gen Rodriguez had fully as many men as Delgado. This was undoubtedly true, but their united force was nearer 1,200 than 4,000.

As to the Province of Matanzas, the Cuban at first asserted that Gen. Betancourt had an army of 4,000 men. When told that this was ridiculous, he reduced the number to 1,400. It is doubtful, however, whether the General had 700 men.

In the province of Santa Clara Gen. Bermudez was said to be in command. His reputation for forceity tarnished his reputation for bravery. During the Congressional visit two Spanish officers sought an interview with a Coi. Nunez, under his command. They were surprised by Bermudez himself, who ordered their immediate execution. They met their fate bravely and were burled at Esperanza on the day the Congressional delegation passed through that city. It was said that Bermudez had at least 3,000 troops under his command. The figures were far too high. He probably had not one-third of this number. The province of Santa Clara was utterly destitute of provisions. The city of Santa Clara was supplied by railroad, but the country was ravaged and ruined by Spanish guerrillas, who were employed to carry out Weylor's orders. Over 7,500 reconcentrados died in the city within four months. These figures come from the Mayor.

In Puorto Principe Gomez himself was located.

were employed to carry out Weylor's orders. Over 7,500 reconcentrados died in the city within four months. These figures come from the Mayor.

In Puerto Principe Gomez himself was located in the mountains twenty miles from the northern shore. Further south Quintin Bandera held mountain sway. Bandera's force was estimated at 1,700. It was far too great an estimated at 1,700. It was far too great an estimated at 1,700. It was far too great an estimated of all, the province of Santiago was canvassed. Here Calixto Garcia has been conducting operations for a long time, and he is now in complete control, with headquarters at Bayamo. Garcia slong the Cauto River for more than six months, but had finally given up the job, and was said to be in command in Cientuegos. Garcia has a force of 7,500 men, well equipped and fairly supplied with ammunition. He has several pleces of artillery which were used with good effect in the slege of Las Tunas. The city was taken by assault and its fortifications destroyed.

From this it will be seen that Gomez is in perfect communication with every detachment of the Cuban Army, and that its entire strength on the Island is about 15,000 men. This is a far greater number than he had when Maccohended the magnificent march to the west.

Such was a part of the information gleaned from my Cuban visitor. It was late in the afternoon when the delegate of the Junta left my room. He slipped out quietly and made his exit from the hotel by an outlet la the rear. That night I met him on the street. He was greatly agitated, and asked what had become of the printed proclamation of Gomez.

"Did you not take it away with you?" I inquired.
"Never, never," was the reply. "Is it not in very contracted?"

"Did you hot take it away with your quired.
"Never, never," was the reply. "Is it not in your pocket?"
No." was the answer. "It must have been left upon the table. Wait one moment and I "No," was the answer. "It must have been left upon the table. Wait one moment and I will go and see."

Back to the hotel I went. There was a score of papers upon the table, but the proclamation was not among them. When I returned and made this report the Cuban blanched with fear.

"It has been stolen by the attendant of your room," said he, "and I am lost."

"Possibly." I replied, "the Senator took it." I made inquiries of the Senator, who looked over the papers in his pocket and found it. When it was returned to its owner the latter gave a great sigh of relief. Before sundown of the succeeding day it was in the hands of Gen. Betancourt.

There is a disposition to regard Gomez and his associates as little better than bandits, guerrillas, and bushwhackers, but the fact is that the Culan patriots have never been reduced to such dire distress as were the American patriots at Vailey Forge. With ample supplies of provisions, clothing, artillery, ammunition, and equipments Gomez was confident of his ability to drive the Spaniards from the island. His men are well seasoned and amenable to discipline, and have never declined a battle with Spanish troops on equal terms.

abattle with Spanish troops on equal terms.

OUB LAST SUNDAY IN CUBA.

It was March 13, our last Sunday in Cuba, The day was spent in Matanzas, a city of 48,000 inhabitants. There was not a fleck in the sky, A cool breeze swept over the bay, tempering the heat of the sun. A blue haze velled the distant mountains and brought vividly to mind the Blue Bidge of Virginie. Standing near a Spanish blockbouse on a height above the city, the lovely valley of the Yumuri lay below us on the left of the ridge, dotted with paims, seamed with slivery streams, and carpeted with the richest vegetation of the island. On the left extended the San Juan Valley, not so pictures que, but equally as fertile, stretching to the west until lost in tropical thickets, lurking places of Cuban patriots.

Near by stood a stone church surrounded by a low wall of masonry. It was surmounted by a low wall of masonry. It was surmounted by a gilt cross and was known as the Church of the Black Virgin. The doors stood wide open, but there were no services and no rectory nor outbuildings. The altar was covered with sea shells, and an image of the Black Virgin appeared above it in an artificial grotto, cruciffy in land. The church was built in the last century by a Spanish grandee to commemorate same momentous event in the history of his family. The bell in the beliry was cast over 200 years ago. Services were held only twice a year. The yard was shaded by a row of Spanish oaks, natives of the Blackrie Islands. Catalian troops were quintered in the yard and evidently intended to cut away the oaks, make ombrasures in the walls, and use the place as a redoubt in case of an assault on the city. It completely commanded both town and harbor. Below the church on the right of the road an exquisite residence attracted attention. Its white walls glessmed in the sunlight from an embowerment of orange trees and sapodilles.

Paims and cleanders shaded the inner court, and its front was allame with the royal purple of the hilbscots. The quarties civil in our enterings, finding that one of the party spoke spanish, became extremely talkative. The manion, he said, was owned by a numar planter, now in Europe. It was one of the dinest residences in the province. Certainly no more slightly and healthy apot could be found. It overlooked the bay and the city, and it was fanned by cool scappeers.

The rargest tropical fruits were propagated on its grounds, and it contained the richest furniture and no art guilery valued at a high figure. He was a high figure. He was a high figure. He was a high figure and the sugar plantallens, had read danne. Hastily gathering what was left, and thankful for the sugar plantallens had read danne. Hastily gathering what was left, and thankful for the series of thousands what was left, and thankful for the sex of the sugar plantallens had brought only \$3! an acre. Three thousands acres of the finest self for tobacco had been seased in Chus to be sold. Some of his plantations had brought only \$3! an acre. Three thousands acres of the finest self for tobacco had been should be seven an offer for \$4.500 would be easewed an easewed highly and highly an easewed highly and highly an easewed highly and highly an easewed highly an easewed highly an easewed highly an easewed highly and highly an easewed highly an easewed highly and hi

The reconcentrados shrank into the doorways and side streets as the noisy column swept nast them. For once their plaintive cries were stilled, and they furtively watched the surging mob. There were horns in the crowd and all sorts of strange noises. As the day died out in the gleam of the electric lights the tumult increased. By midnight there was a regular saturnalia. Everybody was riotously merry. The procession kept in motion, and the music became so barbaric that even the dogs howled in protest. The parks and plazas were alive with frivolity. Everybody seemed to be having a great time. The masqueraders were sportive and accosted each other in terms more affectionate than polished. At times they whirled in waltzes under the palms and anon joined hands and sang loudly under the electric lights. Whenever the procession reappeared all greeted it with loud cheers and joined in the singing. The gignantic negroes stuck to their work manfully, and the dogs moaned with agony as the music increased in power. The saloons were filled to overflowing and the consumption of light wines was enormous. With all the delirium and paroxysms there was no intoxication. Even after midnight a steady stream of carriages poured slong the streets filled with masked ladies and girls, hilarious and joyful, who exchanged short comments with pedestrians and at times sent kisses right and left from the tips of their fingers. Not until near daylight did the noisy scenes subside. The American visitors sought their beds amid the turbulence, and went to sleep undisturbed by either the tooting of horns or the tintinabulation of beils. It had been a feteday in Matanzas, its citizens had been honoring the natal day of their patron saint. Whether the Hack Virgin was the patron saint, whether the Hack Virgin eness of the Congressional delegation that visited Cuba in March. I have not dwelt upon the number of reconcentrades who were starved to death, because these were fally detailed in the statements of the visiting Senators, and I fully agree with



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